

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a gene encoding a protein from merozoite of *Babesia caballi*, a recombinant protein of *Babesia caballi*, and an antibody capable specifically binding to a 48kDa protein of rhoptry of *Babesia caballi* merozoite. In accordance with the present invention, it is possible to stably prepare the 48kDa protein of rhoptry of *Babesia caballi* and the gene encoding said protein in a large amount with the recombinant DNA technique. The present invention also provides a method for diagnosing equine babesiasis which comprises either specifically detecting anti-*Babesia caballi* antibody present in equine blood by using the recombinant protein of present invention as an antigen or detecting the presence of *Babesia caballi* merozoite in equine blood by using the antibody of the present invention.